Repatriation of profits by foreign airlines

2131. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that substantial number of foreign airlines, which are allowed to operate in India, are also allowed to repatriate their profits; if so, what are the profits repatriated by each one of them during each of the last five years;

(b) whether Government have any plans to review the existing rules and regulations governing the operation of these airlines in India, in view of the on-going policy of liberalisation and if so, the broad nature of changes being proposed; and

(c) the profits earned by Air India and Indian Airlines during the last five years, alongwith the foreign exchange component of national carriers and the precise amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of foreign banks

2132. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the proposal for setting up of foreign banks in India; and

(b) if so, which are the companies that have been given licence to set up financial institutions in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Under the provisions of Banking Regulation Act, 1949, permission to foreign banks for opening branches in India is granted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and not by the Government.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the proposals of two foreign banks i.e. Bank of America and Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait for establishing subsidiary companies to undertake financial services have since been approved.

Smuggling of Narcotics

2133. CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that smuggling of Narcotics into and from the country continues unabated; if so, the details of the narcotics seized by various authorities during the past three months; and

(b) what steps have been and are being taken to effectively cut smuggling and illegal production of narcotic and psychotropic drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Smuggling of narcotics does take place. But stringent measures are being taken to curb the menace. The details of the narcotic seizures made by the various authorities during the past three months are as under:

Name of Authority	Opium	Mor-phine	Heroin	Ganja	Hashish	Cocaine	Metha-qualone	Acetic Anhydride
			(Quantity in Kgs.)					
NCB	147	..	41	3122	294	0 060	1412	..
DRI	..	..	..	..	..	..	1786	..
Cus. & Central Excise	..	..	7	50	58	..	628	..
CBN	14	..	3	135	..	..	..	..
BSF	6	..	2	174	5	..	..	70 (Lts.)
CBI	..	..	6	..	1	..	..	..
State Police	5	..	679	63762	5448	..	4850	560 (Lts.)
State Excise	..	..	1	330	3.240	..	..	..

(b) Instructions have been issued to all enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in the NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. Vehicles & communication equipments have been provided to enforcement agencies. Part of Indo-Pak Border has been fenced.

बचत बढाने के उपाय

2134. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वित्त मंत्रालय द्वारा बचत को बढाने के लिए किए जा रहे सभी प्रयास सफल नहीं हुए हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान बचतों को बढने के लिए क्या उपाय किए गए हैं ; और

(घ) पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान भारत में हुई बचतों की कुल धनराशि कितनी है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० अबरार अहमद) : (क) से (घ) केंद्रीय सांख्यिकी संगठन से प्राप्त अद्यतन आंकड़ों के अनुसार कुल सकल घरेलू बचतें 1991–92 में 142479 करोड़ रुपए से बढकर 1992–93 में 157186 करोड रुपए हो गई । यह पिछले वर्षों के स्तर की तुलना में 1992–93 के दौरान 10.3 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि दर्शाता है । पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान बडी संख्या में अपनाए गए आर्थिक सुधार उपायों का उद्देश्य कार्यकुशलता, उत्पादकता और आय स्तरों को बढाना है, जो बचतों पर एक सकारात्मक प्रभाव डालेंगे ।

Bogus Claims from Income-Tax Refunds

2135. **SHRI SATISH PRADHAN**: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of bogus income-tax return-filing and refund-claiming cases have been detected; if so, what is the total amount of returns fraudulently claim in such cases;

(b) wnether it is a fact that a number of professional tax consultants are involved in this racket in collusion with the income-tax officials; and